

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair is pleased to note that we have additional Girl Scouts in our south balcony, 51 Girl Scouts from the western part of the state, from Lexington, Sidney, Chadron, Rushville, North Platte, Stapleton and other points west. Would you people please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you, we're glad that you could take the time to visit with us. The Chair recognizes Senator Bernard-Stevens for further discussion.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I'm not going to add too much to what Senator Hall and Senator Lynch said. But I would hope that, if Senator Coordsen does not withdraw the bracket motion, which I don't know if he's going to do or not, I suspect he's going to want it to go to a vote, that we'd vote it down, I guess I'd say temporarily. And I'd like to give the body at least one chance to do something on the workmen's compensation on LB 315, because obviously it got bogged down. One of the things that bogged it down was priority bill that I had, LB 1062. And I'd like to remind the body that I was not the one that put...that moved to put 1062 on this bill, but I got kind of stuck in that mode and there it was. What I will do is my amendment is first, and I just had a small, technical amendment. I'll ask the body's indulgence and I'll substitute Senator Lynch's amendment which would strike, in a sense...in essence, all of the amendments that were put on 315, with the exception of the original 315 with the committee amendments. In essence, LB 1173, which was added on by Senator Hefner, and all the amendments thereto, and LB 1062, which is Senator Lynch's and my priority bill, would be then deleted. And we give the body one chance, if they wanted to take it, one chance of at least passing something for workmen's compensation, which I think the body, on a straight up vote, would want to do. I would be quick to add, however, that I agree with Speaker Barrett, that we cannot take a lot of time, because we have so many other priority bills that may not be gotten to, of course, some of them I'd rather we not ever get to. But, nonetheless, if that be the case, if we would agree to the Lynch amendment, but more amendments would be filed and more amendments would be filed at that point, I'd be the first one, myself, to bracket...to put a motion to bracket until April 9th. So I don't want to spend a lot of time on the bill. I think we need to bracket it, if in fact we're not going to take it...seriously move it seriously on its way. But I do want to give the body a brief chance, one chance I guess, to get 315 in its original form with the committee amendments so that we might be able to